TOP SECRET

DECLASSIFIED BY 38732 ON 2/16/78

May 13, 1969

ELIJAH MUHAMMAD

REASONS FOR REQUEST OF
ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE AUTHORIZATION

Authority for electronic surveillance of Elijah Muhammad, 4847 South Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, was obtained on January 2, 1957, on the basis that the Nation of Islam (NOI) was composed entirely of Negroes which disavowed allegiance to the United States. Its leader, Elijah Muhammad claims to have been sent by Allah, the Supreme Being, to lead the Negroes out of slavery. Members fanatically follow the teachings of Allah as interpreted by Muhammad and are taught they need not obey the laws of the United States.

Pursuant to the authority for electronic surveillance of Elijah Muhammad at his residence in Chicago, Illinois, or wherever he may move, a telephone surveillance was instituted on September 25, 1961, on the winter residence and office of Elijah Muhammad, 2110-22 East Violet Drive, Phoenix, Arizona. Also on that date a microphone surveillance was instituted under the general authority of the Attorney General. On June 29, 1965, the microphone surveillance was discontinued. On June 23, 1966, the telephone surveillance was discontinued.

SECURITY PURPOSES INTENDED TO BE SERVED BY
SURVEILLANCE WHEN INSTITUTED AND PERIODICALLY CONTINUED

This coverage allowed the FBI to develop intelligence information concerning the fanatical and violent nature of the NOI, and data regarding plans of Elijah Muhammad to expand the activities of the organization throughout the United States. The development of intelligence data concerning any attempts to distribute arms and ammunition throughout the United States in preparation for the "War of Armageddon" was of prime

25-330971 (Elijah Muhammad)
1 - 66-8160

SEE NOTE PAGE THREE

TOP SECRET

CAF:lkk (6)

#90